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#3694-z
ELIAS BRADY PAPERS

1862-1864

Folder 1 of 1

Manuscripts Department, University of North Carolina Library
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

SOUTHERN HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Number 3694

NAME: BRADY, ELIAS (1837?-1863)

PAPERS

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1862-1864

STATES: Indiana

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: Looseleaf notebook, 42 leaves.
(23 mounted manuscript letters, plus typed copies of each, and supplementary information in the form of photocopies of military records and typed notes)

ACQUISITION: Purchased, October 1964, from Frank Putnam Deane II, 2003 Haviland Drive, Richmond, Virginia 23229, He had acquired them and other Civil War materials while working on a history of the 141st N. Y. Regiment.

DESCRIPTION: October 1862-December 1863; May 22, 1864.

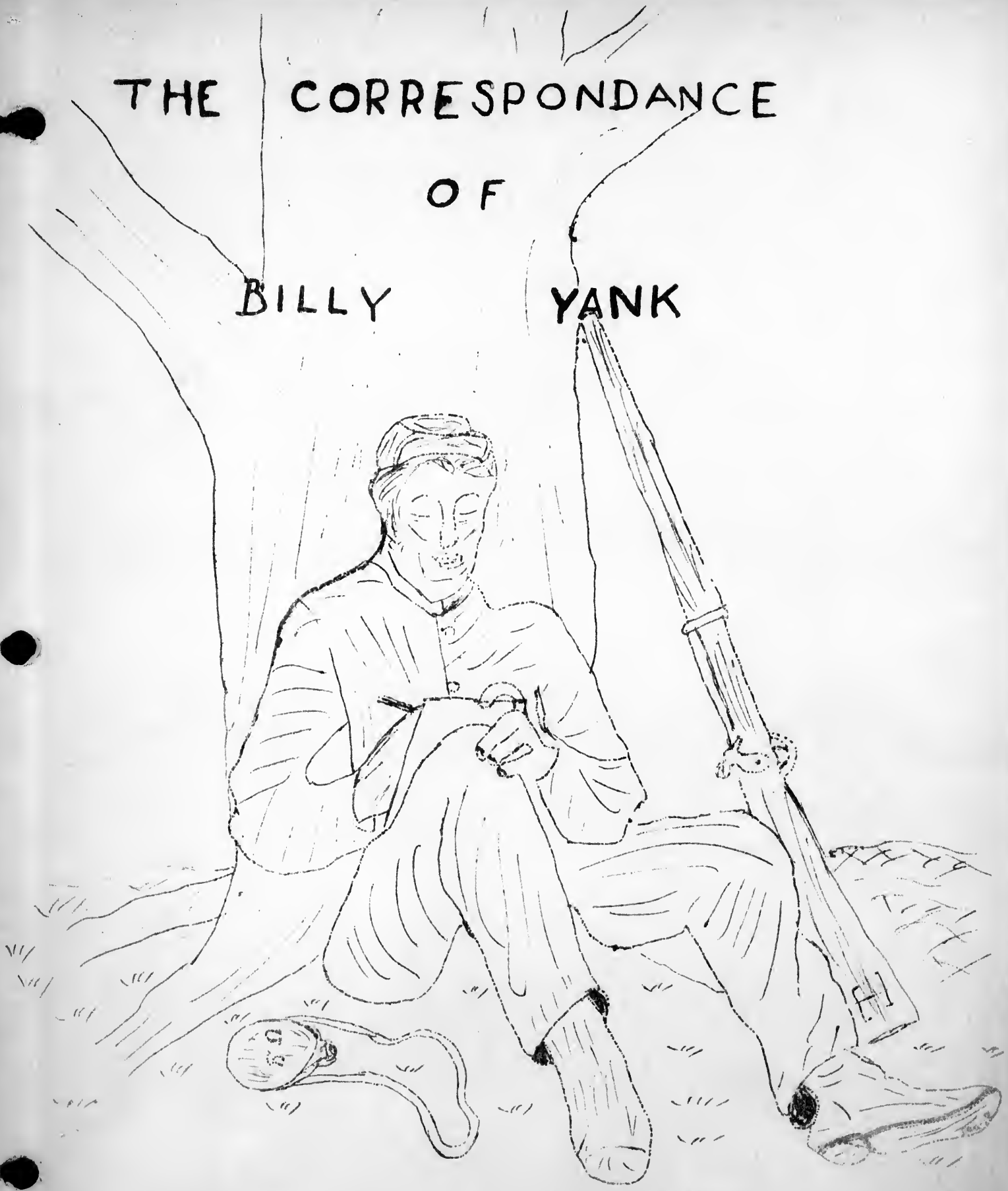
Elias Brady of Rainsville, Warren County, Indiana, enlisted in August 1862 for a three-year period and was serving as a musician in Co. D, 86th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment when he died of smallpox in Dec. 1863. He and his brother-in-law, Lt. Harris Gass, were serving together with the Army of the Cumberland, and their letters were written from Kentucky, Murfreesboro and Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was hospitalized at or near Chattanooga. The only letter written after 1863 was a letter from H. Gass, May 1864, at Cassville, Georgia. Elias Brady's wife was Martha (or Mat), daughter of John Gass. The letters were written by Elias Brady and Harris Gass while they were in the army, to Martha (Gass) Brady and John Gass at Rainsville, Indiana. There are 23 letters, plus copies of each.

In addition to the war letters, the notebook contains copies of Indiana state records of the military service of Brady and Gass and some typed notes concerning the men and their regiment. These materials were probably compiled by Frank P. Deane II.

Date of this record
Oct. 28, 1964

By:
Allan

THE CORRESPONDANCE OF BILLY YANK



Executive Department, Indiana.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

INDIANAPOLIS August 7 19 62

This Certifies That the official records (of which I am the lawful custodian) on file in this office show that BRADY, Elias joined for duty and was enrolled as a Musician of Company D, 86th Regiment Indiana Volunteers, at Rainsville, INDIANA on the 10th day of August 1862, by Captain Stevens and that he was duly mustered into the Military Service of the United States at Indianapolis, Indiana on the 4th day of September 1862, for the term of three (3) years by Captain Miller Mustering Officer

Age: 25

Died at Chattanooga, Tennessee, December 11, 1863.

This Certificate is given as official evidence of enlistment, service and death of Elias Brady of Company D 86th Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

Witness my hand and official seal.

STATE OF INDIANA
Indiana State Library
For the State Librarian

John S. Anderson
Adjutant General, Indiana.

Lawrie G. Meldrum
Lawrie G. Meldrum, Assistant Archivist

IND. AGD FORM 100

Executive Department, Indiana.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE.

INDIANAPOLIS August 14 19 62

This Certifies That the official records (of which I am the lawful custodian) on file in this office show that GASS, Harris joined for duty and was enrolled as a 2nd Lieutenant of Company D, 86th Regiment Indiana Volunteers at Rainsville, INDIANA on the 10th day of August 1862 by Captain Stevens and that he was duly mustered into the Military Service of the United States at Indianapolis, Indiana on the 4th day of September 1862, for the term of 3 (three) years by Captain Miller Mustering Officer

Age: 22

Nativity: Warren County, Indiana. Occupation: Farmer.

1st Lieutenant June 5, 1863.

Mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee, June 6, 1865.

This Certificate is given as official evidence of enlistment, service and muster-out of Harris Gass of Company D 86th Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

Witness my hand and official seal.

STATE OF INDIANA
Indiana State Library
For the State Librarian

John S. Anderson
Adjutant General, Indiana.

Lawrie G. Meldrum
Lawrie G. Meldrum, Assistant Archivist

IND. AGD FORM 100

Published and for sale by Morgan & Co., 38 and 40, Fourth St., Cincinnati, O.

THE PATRIOT STATESMAN OF '76.

JEFFERSON.

„The Constitution and the Union."

Dear Son I once more
take my pen in hand
to write to you a few
lines to let you know
that I am well at
this time we ~~[illegible]~~
a [illegible] the battle
field the battle took
place day before yes-
terday we gained the
battle ill those our
loss was very heavy
we was not engaged

on the fight
we the we were in the
midst of the fight
we drove rebels by going
to Nashville Nashville
Carrolton
to march we expect
a great battle today
Jamesville is only 5 miles
from here we it is supposed
we lost 15 hundred
we took 2000 prisoners
the rebels loss is not known
yet they run and left
their dead on the field
they are burying their
dead to day I can not
discribe to you the
scene on the battle
field there is more
than five hundred guns
left on the field

[illegible] in such a
hurry I cannot write
any more right now
the last letter I got
from you was dated
the 24 of September
we are very busy
fixing for Christmas
Good by

Elias Brady

Elias Brady

Co. K 2nd Regt
of Cavalry

Neal Bonds

Civil War

Oct tober 10th 1862

Dear Mat

I once more take my pen in hand to wright you a few lines to let you know that I am well at this time we (are) encamping on the battle field the battle took place day be fore yesterday we gained the battle all thee our loss was very heavy we was not engaged in the fight al thee we were in the midst of the fighting the rebbels is ageing to make a stand at danville we ar ordered to march we expect a great battle today danville is only 5 miles from here so it is suposed we lost 13 hundred we took 2000 prisoners the rebels loss is not know yet they run and left their d(ead) on the field they ar burying their dead to day I cannot discribe to you the scene of a battle field their is fore or five hundred guns left on the field

I am in rutsh a hurry I cannot right any more right soon the last letter I got from you was dated the 24 of September you must excuse my bad righting

Goodby

Elias Brady

Martha Brady

Write good soon all I say

<u>ELIAS BRADY</u> - Age 20; enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana August 10, 1862 as a musician in Company D, 98th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered in to serve 3 years September 4th at Indianapolis. He died of the small pox December 11, 1863 at Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he was buried.

October 12th / 62

Mrs Martha Brady Dear Sister

I commence writing to you rather late
the Post master starts in a few
minutes he only goes once a week
it is so dark I cannot see the lines
Eli just wrote a letter to you
told you all the news I reckon
the boys are all well but Wilbur
Pye and Lewis Mutsel be one
more I forgot Allen Kelley
they are all there left at
Perrysville Sam is very bad
or was when we left yesterday
morning the folks did not
do right by not writing to
him I wrote to Pap and
William a few days
ago have received no letter
from home for 15 days
no more at present
write write soon
give us the news
H C Gay
Yours Brother

see by Mr Elias letter
you are getting along
with Sherry give my
respects to Gall

if you can read this
it is more than I can do

October 13th/62

Mrs Martha Brady

Dear Sister

I commence writing to you rather late the Post master starts in a few minutes he only goes once a week it is so dark i cannot see the lines Elias just wrote a letter to you told you all the news i reckon the boys are all well but William (?) and Lewis Stutsel one more i forgot Allen Kelley they are all three left at Perrysville Lew is very bad or was when we left yesterday morning the folks did not do right by not writing to him i wrote to pop and William a few days ago have received no letter from home for 12 days no more at present write soon write and give all the news

H Gass

your Brother

i see by Elias letter you are getting stuck with Sherrys give my respects to Call if you can read this it is more than i can do

The envelope is addressed "Martha Brady, Rainsville, Indiana" and is franked with a 3 Cent United States stamp, Issue of 1861 with is cancelled with an army grid marking and postmarked "Nashville Tenn".

HARRIS GASS * Age 22; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana as a Second Lieutenant in Company "D", Eighty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry on August 10, 1862 and was mustered in for three years service at Indianapolis, Indiana on September 4th. He was promoted to First Lieutenant on June 5, 1863 and was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee on June 6, 1865. The Eighty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry was organized at Lafayette, Indiana and mustered in September 4, 1862. It was attached to the Fourteenth Brigade, Fifth Division, Second Corps, Army of the Ohio until November, 1862 when it was attached to the Second Brigade, Third Division, Left Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland. In January, 1863 the regiment was attached to the Second Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-first Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland, and later to the Third Brigade, Third Division, Fourth Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland. The regiment was mustered out June 6, 1865.

This, and the following three letters were written by Harris Gass, First Lieutenant, Company "D", Eighty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry to his sister, Mrs. Martha Brady and his father John Gass.

November 18th 1862

Dear father i received your letter dated 7th you said in your letter that you had my corn gethered and my wheat hulled up and that you wanted to know what i wanted you to do with it you said that you was willing to by my corn and give me the customary price that was 15 c to a bushel that is as far as i could ask i am willing to let you have the corn at the customary price as i do not know how long it will be before i can return home you and martha can fix that matter with yourselves you can give her a note caling for the amount or you can pay her the money just as you and her ar amined to fix it you can do the same with the wheat i am willing for you and martha to fix it twixt yourselves i must quit fighting for we are in a hell fish place at this time the rebels is throwing shells at us we send too at them forever one they throw at us we are expecting warm work before we get through we hear canon a ding in every direction i must bring my letter to a close i will say in conclusion that i am well and hardy Harris is hardy perry is not very stout also James Anderson is not very stout the rest of the boys is in mordert health ashly i would like you to right to me occasionly and give me the particilars of the times as we do not get any news here only in that way no more at present Elias Brady John Sass

November 18th 1862

Dear father

i receved your leter daited 7th you said in your leter that you had my corn gethered and my wheat halled of(f) and that you whanted to know what i whanted you to do withit you said that you was wiling to by my corn and give me the customary price that was 15 Cts a bushel that is as far(fair) aprise(a price?) as i could ask i am wiling to let you halve the corn at the customary prise as i do not know how long it will be before i can return home you and martha can fix that mater with your selves you can give her a note caling for the amount or you can pay her the money just as you and her ar amind to fix it you can do the same with the wheat as i am wiling for you and martha to fix it b(e)tween your selves i must quit righting for we ar in a ticklish plase at this time the rebels is throwing shelles at us we send too at them for everyone they throw at us we ar expecting warm work be fore we get through we hear canon ading(?) in evry direction i must bring my leter to a close i will say in conclusion that iam well and harty Haris is harty pery(Perry) is not very stout also James Anderson is not very stout the rest of the boys is in mordert health only iwould like you to right to me ocasionly and give me the perticklers of the times as we do not get any noes here only in that way no more at present

Elias Brady
John Gass

There is no envelope.

Sunday November 23th 1862

Dear Wife I received your letter yesterday dated 11th I was glad to hear that you was all well I am well at present praising when this comes to hand it will find you all in praising the same blessing this is sunday and the boys are all gone out on picket duty this a nice day today and as the boys is not here to bother me I am going to fight 3 letters one to you one to mant ~~and~~ and one to pap I was sory to hear of the death of others thing but Mrs Hubard their is a great many deaths here George Freeman got a letter from the general hospital that Thomas Freeman was dead he was buried yesterday George took it very hard to think that he could not get leave to go and see him before he died Thomas rote to him a few days before he died stating that he wanted him to come and see him george asked leave of the colonel to let him go but the colonel would not let him go I think the colonel done very wrong for not letting him go the colonel is not liked very well by the boys he is a very crabit old bugar we are still in camp at the place where we was when I rote to you last I do not know how long we will stay here this is a very nice place to camp and every thing is quiet since we give the rebel villains such a thrashing they have come to the conclusion that it is not worth while for them to attact us our hole army is encamped between here and nashville and in nash ville

they say that it is nothing but a solid mass of camps
between here and nashville those that have went
from here to nashville they say that they can go clear
through and not be out of sight of the camps in the
hard road nashville is 11 miles from here the battle
that I told you off in my other letter where our
troops whipped the rebels back 5 miles from where they com
ence fighting is the last fighting I have heard of
we captured 15 hundred prisoners in order stand that
it was Breckenridge's forces that our men was fighting
all is quiet now and I think it will remain so for awhile
and I do not care how long they do main so for we fare better
when we are in camp we have got plenty to eat and
have got good warm tents to sleep in there is a old
mill or rather a corn grinder ~~close~~ not very far from
here and we have got it pressed in we have lots of
corn meal in and a pot of mash last night and set it
away in till this mourning and then I fried it up
and fried it it is fine they are going to fill
a beef this evening for our regiment and then
we will have beef and corn cakes and coffee for
supper and lots of good cedar rails to cook them with
I have buried my drum and have nothing much
to do now I told the boys that I would come out
where they are on picket and cook their dinners
that is the boys that is in my mess we mess off
in messes from 5 to 8 in a mess and these take turns
in cooking but I generally do the cooking for my mess
I would rather do it than lay round doing nothing

tell Liza that Walt is in my mess
and that I am going to go out and get
him a good dinner after which you wrote
in one of your letters that Henry Brier rote to
Liza and rote like he was home sick Hen is home
sick and if he does not cheer up and try and
get home off of his mind he will die he lays round
in the tent all the time and is downhearted hardly
speaks unless he is spoken to he looks bad he is sick
but that is what is ailing it there is a good many
of the boys like him I expect you think that
I am home sick by some of the letters I rote to you
I do not pretend to deny of being home sick for I want
like to be at home with you and Coney I expected it
before I left but I thought it was my duty to come
to my country call you and Coney is on my mind
all the time but I all ways look a head for better
times to come and do not allow my self to get down
like some there is not one but what wants to get home
some of the old regiments just swear that they
are not going to stay out longer than the first
day of January the Winchester regiments in per ticker
say that they are going home pretty soon they say
that it is no use to try to whip them in by fighting
I think so my self if we half to settel this war by
fighting it will be a long time before it is setteled
they have decided ally the advantage of us if they
would stand and fight us we could soon whip them
but they are too sharp for that that is not the way they
are to fight us they calculate to fight us and then run and then fight

again they are aming to worry us out they may tal to
starving them out but that is all in the eye
we can never do that I think I think ~~that the people~~
ian in hopes that they will come to reasonable
terms before long it is the genere opinion here that
the war will not last match longer I think it will
ether end before long we have great deal more
it is nearly noon and I must bring my letter to
a close and go and get dinner for the boys we have been
bothered in getting our mail for a long time but our
mail comes very regular now and will I think as long as we
stay in hant you to right oft ten as you can for it
does me so much good to hear from you if you can
get postage stamps handy I would like you to send
me some more they are very hard to get their is none
to be had only as our sutler has them and he is out
half the time you might send a few in diferent
leters and I would like you to send me a little
money I do not need much money here but I do
not like to be out of money in Italy their is some talk
of us going to Glen green to stay awhile and if we
go their I have their will be a chance to get your my
minature out I hope I will half to have some money
respect I will half to get me a pair of gloves or mitens
I have got none and I began to need them now
if you send me some money send it in diferent
leters only put a little in a leter for they are very
carless some times frequently our leters get miss
placed we have got lots of leters now that was directed
to the 86 Illanois we generly remail them you need
not send much I must bring my leter to a close
right soon from your husband Elias Brady
Matt Brady

take good care of money untill I get home
I am so glad he is getting harty

Sunday November 23th 1862

Dear Wife

i received your leter yesterday dated 11th i was glad to hear that you was all well i am well at present hoping when this comes to hand it will find you all in joying the same blessing this is Sonday and the boys ar all gon out on piced(picket) duty it is a nice day to day and as the boys is not here to bother me i am going to right 3 leters one to you one to (maut?) and one to pap i was sory to hear of the death of Mrs Shery and Mrs Hubord their is a great many deaths here George freeman got a leter from the generl hospital that Thomas Freeman was dead he was buried yesterday George took it very hard to think that he could not get leaf to go and see him before he died thomas rote to him a few days before he died staiting that he whanted him to come and see him george asked (for) leaf of the Colonel to let him go but the Colonel would not let him go i think the Colonel don very rong for not leting him go the Colonel is not liked very well by the boys he is a very crabit old bugar we ar still in camp at the plase whare we was when i rote to you last i do not know how long we will stay here this is a very nice plaice to camp and evry thing is quiet since we give the rebel gurillains(guerrills) sutch athrashing they halve come to the conclusion that it is not worth while for them to atact(attack) us our hull(whole) army is in camped between here and nashville and in nashville they say that it is nothing but a solid mass of camps between here and nashville those that halve went from here to nashville they say that they can go clear through and not be out of sight of the camps in the hull(whole) rout nashville is 11 miles from here the battle that i told you of in my other leter whare our troops whiped the rebels back 5 miles from whare they comense fighting is the last fighting i halve heard of we captured 15 hundred prisners i under stand that it was Brecondriges(Breckinridge's Force) that our men was fighting all is quiet now and i think it will remain so for awhile and i do not care how long they remain so for we fair beter when we ar in camp we halve got plenty to eat and halve got good warm tents to sleep in their is a old mill or rather a corn grinder not very far from here and we halve got it pressed in (use?) we halve lots of corn meal i maid a pot of mush last night and set it away un till this mourning and then sliced it up and fried it it et fine they ar going to kill a beef this evning for our redgiment and then we will halve beef and corn cakes and coffee for super and lots of good cedar rails to cook them with i halve busted my drum and halve nothing mutch to do now i told the boys that i would come out whare they are on picket and cook their dinners that is the boys that

is in my mess we mess off in messes from six to 8 in a mess and then take turns in cooking but i generly do the cooking for my mess i would rather do it than lay round doing nothing

tell Liza that Walt is in my mess and that i am going to go out and get him a good dinner after while you rote in one of your leters that Henry Brier rote to Liza and rote like he was home sick Hen(ry) is home sick and if he does not cher up and try and get home of(f) his mind he will die he lays round in the tent all the time and is down harted (he) hardly speeks unless he is spoken to he looks bad he is sick but that is what is cosing it their is a good many of the boys like him i expect you think that i am home sick by some of the leters i rote to you i do not pretend to deny of being home sick for i would like to be at home with you and loney i expected it before i left but i thought it was my duty to come to my countrys call you and loney is on my mind all the time but i allways look a head for beter times to come and do not alow my self to get down like some their is not one but what whants to get home some of the old redgiments just swar that they ar not agoing to stay out longer than the first day of jenuary the Kintuckey redgiments in per tickler say that they ar agoing home prety soon they say that it is no use to try to whip them in by fighting i think so myself if we half to setel this war by fighting it will be along time before it is seteled they halve decidedly the advantage of us if they would stand and fight us we could soon whip them but they ar to sharp for that that is not the way they aim to fight us they calculate to fight us and then run and then fight again they ar aming(aiming) to wory us out they may talk of starving them out but that is all in the eye we can never do that i think ~~i-think-that-the-people~~ i am in hopes that they will come to reasonable turms befor long it is the generl opinion here that the war will not last mutch longer i think it will ether end be fore long ore b(e) a great deal worse it is nearly noon and i must bring my leter to a close and go and get diner for the boys we halve been bothered in geting our mail for a long time but our mail comes very regular now and will i think as long as we stay i whant you to right often as you can for it does me so mutch good to hear from you if you can get postage stamps handy i would like you to send me some more they ar very hard to get their is none to be had only as our sutler has them and he is out half the time you might send a few in diferent leters and i would like you to send me a little money i do not nead mutch here but i do not like to be out of money intialy(entirely) their is some talk of us a going to bolen green(Bowling Green) to stay awhile and if we go their mabe(maybe) their will be a chance to get you my minature and if so i will half to halve som money i expect i will half to get me a pair of gloves

or mitens i halve got none and i began to nead them
now if you send me som money send it in difernt
leters only put a litle in a leter for they ar very
carlas(careless) some times frequently our leters
get miss plased we halve got lots of leters now that
was directed to the 86 Illanois we generly remail
them you nead not send mutch i must bring my
leter to a close right soon

from your husband
Elias Brady
Mat Brady

take good care of loney untill i get home
i am so glad he is geting harty

The envelope is addressed "John Gass, Rainsville, Indiana - Mrs M. Brady". The envelope is a U. S. Stamped Envelope, Issue of 1861 and is postmarked "Nashville Tenn - Nov 29 1862".

Monday November 24th 1862

Dear Wife your card of the 16th came to hand today I was truly glad to hear that you ~~you~~ was all well I am well at present I rote you a letter yesterday and gave you all the particulars I do not know what to right this time we are still in camp we are living pretty well at this time we had we got a big mess pan full of beef on a working for dinner the weather is nice the nights are pretty cold there was a very heavy frost this morning our company was out on picket last night they had to stay out in the open air it was pretty cool for us we maid the rails get we kept up a big fire all night at the reserve probably we will do at Simon have we stations one more when I am on picket the hole company goes out at a time and then they take 10 or 12 more as many men as is required and station them I about a hundred yards from the rest of the men those that are station out has to keep a study watch out all the time they are not allowed to put their gun out of their hands or lay down they stand about 2 hours and then then they are relieved by other men and then they get to lay down and rest for awhile the rest of the company stacks their guns in nice order having them loaded and well capped so if there is a alarm made they can be ready to at a minute warning but at the reserve they are allowed to build fire

in the daytime the boys are alowed the passage a little but it is not very safe to go far from the picket lines some restit and go a good ways our boys got held in a bag yester day it was a fine pat one when i went out to the ma to get them their dinner they were afte asleep and had it nearly run down they seen a pickt officer a coming so they had to let it go we are a leaving to play off shorp on the officers our company officers do not care how much we carpiseat but we half to keep a sharp lookout for the picket officers when we get afte asleep or a bag we have one to the watch posts we are not alowed to shoot so we half to run them down we burn every rail we can burn the other day we were ordered to move we struck our tents and packed up every thing we had been burning rail, we had burnt every rail that was close and we had stacked all the rails that was in our camp and had set fire to them when the order was countermanded then we was beate we had burnt all of our rails but we did not wait long we came struck out a cross the field on double quick and to down the mans out side pass and packed it over the over of the pass stood and looked at us but he dassent say any thing it is a nice looking for me that we are camping on but it is nearly ruined now i do not think their is words offense in it

it does no good to distroy the greasy-
bellys property when some of the boys gets
hold of any property of any kind belonging to
the rebels they distroy it as fast as they
can and then they say damn him he was the cause
of bringing us here that is how if they will not come
back and restore peace again as long as we help to
be away from our friends at home we calculate
to live as fat as we can and aim to live off them
all we can think the more we distroy the
sooner we can whip them it looks hard to take
the chickens and the apples from the families
that that have been left alone by them going
to the southern army their is lots of them that
ondeon as they come up to a house they go right in
and get to fill pern and hunting for dried apples
and peaches. i never do that i cannot help the hart
to take from the helpless families when i see
a nice looking house and see plenty around
it i will have a chicken if i can. I hope it
you receive that you uncle Jo is coming after
pery i think that his trip will be for nothing
i think he could not get him pery is getting better
but is not very strong yet you said that george
stated wanted me to tell Jo that he had
rote him several letters since he had got home
from him i had he not seen Lieutenant
the pery will be battle or heard from him
he is back on the road some where

Thomas Smith is very poorly at this time
She has been unwell for several days there
is several of the boys sick you said that Mrs Harris
came over to hear how he was getting along
that she hadn't never got a letter from him
frequently write to you with out stating any
thing about the rest of the boys when there is any
thing the matter of any of them I always
mention it to you I usual ways take it for granted
that they are well unless I mention their names
in my letter Benois is doing very good health
at this time I think I can tell you yesterday
I guess I will half to quit writing for I cannot
think of anything to write ~~to right to that~~ I thought I would
write more that I could not right long letter and I
account that I right so often for that is all we nothing
new to right I have filled this sheet pretty near full
but I expect it will not be very interesting ~~to you~~
for you to read so I will close by saying to you
that I am going to send the inclosed that you sent me
back to you and it came in very good for my
I am out of money and will half to stay out un
till pay settles I get an as ever I remain at present
please right after - from your husband Elias Brady

Mat and Cory

Monday November 24th 1862

Dear Wife

yours of the 16th came to hand today i was trualy glad to hear that you was all well i am well at present i rote you a leter yesterday and gave you all the perticulars i hardly know what to right this time we ar still in camp we ar living prety well at this time we halve got a big mess pan full of beef on a cooking for dinner the wether is nice the nights ar prety cold their was avery hevy frost this mourning our company was out on picket last night they had to sleep out in the open air it was prety cool for us we maid the rails get(??) we kept up a big fire all night at the reserve probly you do not know how we station our men when we ar on picket the hull(whole) company goes out at a time and then they take 10 or 12 men or as many men as is requred and station them about a hundred yards from the rest of the men those that ar stationd out hast to keep a study(steady) watch out all the time they ar not alowed to put their gun out of their hands or lay down they stand about 2 hours and then they ar relieved by ather(other) men and then they get to lay down and rest for awhile the rest of the company stacks their guns in nice order having them loaded and well caped so if their is a alarm made they can be ready at a minuts warning back at the reserve they ar alowed to halve fire in the day time the boys ar alowed to forage a little but it is not very saf(e) to go far from the picket lines some resk it and go agood ways our boys gobeld in ahog yesterday it was a fine fat one when i went out to them to get them their dinner they ware after asheep and had it nearly run down they seen afield oficer a coming so they had to let it go we ar a learning to play off sharp on the officers our company oficers do not care how mutch we confiscate but we half to keep a sharp lookout for the field oficers when we get after asheep or ahog we halve one to watch for us we ar not alowed to shoot so we half to run them down we burn evry rail we can burn the other day we was ordered to move we struck our tents and packed up evrything we had been burning rails we had burnt evry rail that was close and we had stacked al the rails that was in our camp and had set fire to them when the order was counter manded then we was beete we had burnt all of our rails but we did not wait long when we struck out across the field on doubel quick and tor down the mans out side pens and packed it over the oner(owner) of the pens stood and looked at us but he dassent say any thing it is a nice looking farm that we ar camping on but it is nearly ruind now i do not think their is 40 rds offens(??) on it it does us good to distroy the greesey belleys property when some of the boys gets holt(hold) of any property of any kind beloning to the rebels they dis troy it as fast as they can and then say dam him he

was the coss(cause) of bringing us here that is sow if they will not come back and restore peace again as long as we half to be away from our friends at home we cal culate to live as fat as we can and aim to live of(f) of them all we can i think the more we distroy the sooner we can whip them it looks hard to take the chickens and the apels from the famlies that halve been left alone by them agoing to the Sothern army their is lots of the boys that as soon as they come up to a house they go right in and go to pil fern and hunting for dried apels and peeches i never do that i canot halve the hart to take from the heplis famlies when i see a nice looking house and see plenty around it i will halve a chicken if i can ketch it you rote that uncle Jo was coming after pery i think that his trip will be for nothing i think he could not get him pery is geting beter but is not very stout yet you said that george Stutsal whanted me to tell Lew that he had rote him severl letors since he had got one from him i halve not seen Liew since the peryville battle or heard from him he is back on the road some whare

Thomas Smith is very purly at this time he has been unwell for severl days their is severl of the boys sick you said that Mrs Harris came over to hear how ben(Ben) was geting along that she hardly ever got a leter from him i frequently rite to you with out stating any thing about the rest of the boys when their is any thing the mater of any of them I always mention it you can always take it for granted that they ar well when i do not mention their names in my leter Ben is in midling good health at this time i think he rote a letor yesterday i guess i will half to quit righting for i cannot think of any thing to right i thought when i comens that i could not right a very long leter on the acount that i right so often that i halve nothing new to right i halve filled this sheet prety near foal(full??) but i expect it will not be very interesting for you to read so i will close by saing to you that i am agoing to send the invelope that you sent me back to you and it come in very good play for i am out of invelops and will half to stay out un till our Sutler can get an a suply no more at present pleas right often

from your husband

Elias Brady

Mat and loney

There is no envelope.

Thursday December 11th 1862

Dear Martha yours of the 4th came to hand last evening it gave me much pleasure to hear from you and to hear that you was all well i am well at this time hoping when this comes to hand it will find you all injoying good health the money you sent me in the letter was very acceptable for i was clear out this was a good move in the army yesterday our brigade moved 2 miles back towards nashville and went into camp again we are very well pleased with the change we have got a nice place to camp at it is in the woods their is no under brush to bother us all nice big trees near a making the apples get this mourning the trees are falling in every direction we have some big fires i do not know what the move was for it looked a good many of us we was expecting a move but we was expecting to move towards the enemy not from them ~~it appears~~ the hull army moved back a few miles we do not know what the move is for nor we are not likely to know a private a comen soldier knows nothing they are like ~~sow~~ so many hogs where they are driven to later on their we had to go a two day evening after we had all laid down well it was about 10 o'clock the orders came for us to get up and draw 3 days rations and cook them and put them in our haver sacks and be redy to march at a minutes notice you would have laughed if you had been here to see us boys a crawling out of our tents

Some a giving old abe lights some a giving the niggers lights tomone thing and some another idid not say mutch but i kept a awful thinking all the while we went on and prepared our grub acording to orders and then went to bed again by that time it was pret night at five oclock in the morning the the musicianers call was sounded so i had to get up and help beat the revalle forth rest of the boys to get up and prepair their breakfast and fix for marching they all got up and got their breakfast and prepared every thing for marching presently the order came for us to goout on picket duty they all went out on picket ~~[illegible]~~ and their was nomore said about marching untill yesterday morning about 3 oclock we was all waked up and ordered to to prepair our 3 days rations for moving at a moments warning we dan so and layed round untill nine oclock when the orders came for us to strike our tents we expected a big days march when orders came for us to move back 2 miles in the rear then their was some halawing you had better think that is the way the soldiers goes i had nothing of mutch importance to right so i thought i would give you a idea how a soldier was learned when the general sees fit to give orders it makes no difence how mutch it discomodes us we help to obey orders i have rate enough on that subject

their was a letter came last night for
Lew Stutsel Lew is not here i have
not seen him since the perryville
battle i understand that he is in Balengreen
Kentuckey tell gorge about it i under stand
that he is at the convalescent barracks he was
sick when we left perryville and was left
their and has not came up yet your letter
dated the 24th stated that you had
rote a letter the sunday be for to me
and had sent some postage stamps in it
that letter has not came to hand yet postage
stamps is as carse here as hen teeth they
can not be got scarsly at all i can send a letter
with out stamps but i dont like to ~~[illegible]~~
a i guess i will half to bring my scribling to a
close for it is ageting pretty well on to wards noon
Walt and i am ageing over to the first
Kentuckey redgimen to see dan and Ely
they are camped about 2 miles from here
i want you to right after for the letters
are generly along time a coming perry got
a letter last evening he was tickled very
much over it ~~it has been a long time since~~
i want you to right and let me know how
bonny and bird is ageting along
i guess i must quit righting i still feel in
hopes that the war is nearly over for i am
anxious to get home you must take good care

of your self and Lorey untill I get home
tell Mrs Benhares that Bemis well
he got a letter last night from her

please right soon
and often
from your husband E. Brady
Mat and Lorey

thursday December 11th 1862

Dear Martha

yours of the 4th came to hand last evning it gave me mutch pleasure to hear from you and to hear that you was all well i am well at this time hoping when this comes to hand it will find you all injoying good health the money you sent me in the letter was very exceptable for i was clear out their was a generl move in the army yesterday our brigade moved 2 milds(miles) back towards nashville and went in camp again we ar very well pleased with the change we halve got a nice plase to camp at it is in the woods their is no under brush to bother us all nice big trees wear(we are) amaking the axxes get this mourning the trees ar falling in evry direction we halve some big fires i do not know what the move was for it fooled a good many of us we was expecting a move but we was expecting to move to wards the enimy not from them the hull(whole) army moved back a few milds (miles) we do not know what the move is for nor wear not likley to know a comen soldier knows nothing they ar like so many hogs whore(where) ever they ar a mint to take us their we half to go a tuesday evning after we had all laid down well it was about 10 oclock the orders came for us to get up and draw 3 days rations and cook them and poot them in our haver sacks and be redy to march at a minutes notice you would a halve laughed if you had a bin here to see us boys a crawling out of our tents some a giving old abe sights some a giving the niggers sights some one thing some another i did not say mutch but i kept a awful thinking all th(e) while we went on and prepared our grub acording to orders and then went to bed again by that time it was mid night at five oclock in the mourning the musicianers call was sounded so i had to get up and help beet the revalee for the rest of the boys to get up and prepair their breakfast and fix for marching they all got up and got their breakfast and prepared evrything for marching presently the orders came for us to go out on picket duty they all went out on picket and their was no more said about marching untill yesterday mourning about 3 oclock we was all waked up and ordered to prepair our 3 days rations for moving at a moments warning we done so and layed round untill nine oclock when the orders came for us to strike our tents we expected a big days march when orders came for us to move back 2 milds(miles) in the rear then their was some holowing you had better think that is the way soldiern goes i had nothing of mutch importance to right so i thought i would give you an idea how a soldier was searved when the generl sees fit to give orders it makes no difernce how mutch it discomades(?) us we half to obey i guess i halve rote enough on that subject

Foot note

their was a letter came last night for lew stutsel
Lieu is not here i halve not seen him since the pery-
ville battle i understand that heis(he is) in
Bolengreen(Bowling Green) Kintuckey tell gorge about
it i under stand that he is at the convalessents
barracks he was sick when we left peryville and was
left their and has not came up yet your letter dated
the 24th stated that you had rote a letter the Sunday
be for to me and had sent some postage stamps in it
that letter has not come to hand yet postage stamps is
as carse(scarce) here as hen teeth they can not be got
scarsly at all i can send a letter with out stamps
but i dont like to i guess i will half to bring my
Scribling to a close for it is a geting prety well on
to wards noon Walt and i am a going over to the first
Kintucky redgiment to see don and Elye they ar camped
about 2 miles from here i whant you to right often
for the leters ar generly along time a coming pery
got a letter last evning he was tickled very mutch over
it i whant you to right and let me know how bouen
and bird is ageting along

i guess i must quit righting i still feel
in hopes that the war is nearly over for i am ancious
to get home you must take good care of your self and
loney untill i get home tell Mrs Ben haris that Ben
is well he got a letter last night from her

pleas right soon and often
from your husband
E Brady
Mat and Loney

There is no envelope.

Friday December 12th 1862

Dear Wife once more take my pen in hand to pen a few lines to you to inform you that I am well hoping that you are all in enjoying the same blessing I have been but a short time since wrote to you George received a letter from home yesterday stating that Tim Stutsel was their sick the letter he got was rote by William Siggler no doubt but what Tim is in a suffering condition as Mr George Stutsel that he is to be a great barrecks soldier instead in his welfare but we have not got the privilege to see him I do not know whether George going there or not he should see him for a hospital is a awful place it is dreaded by all the soldiers they seem to dread the hospital more than the battle field their was a brigade drill yesterday our forage train was attacked by the Rebels our regiment was out in battalion drill when the alarm was given the signal flags was waving the officers running their horses to and fro all over the camps our brigade was marched off on double quick to rein force them our regiment was out in drill they had nothing on but their dress coats leaving their overcoats blankets and every thing in the camp they was not allowed to stop at the camp

long enough to get their things but was
ordered upon double quick we went some
five miles when it was come that the
fight was over we succeeded in driving
them back it was ~~very~~ after daylight when
we got back to camp it was
nearly frose that we not count the
particulars of the battle respect their
was a good many killed for there was a middling
heavy force engaged and they fought a long time
last night about mid night our company and
to others in our regiment was ordered out
to escort our captured prisoners through the lines
those that was taken at Harrisville Morgantown
there was about Sixteen hundred of them
did not go with the boys quite want seventy
prisoners but what the boys say they were in
a suffering condition the rebels had stripped
them of all their close nearly they had
taken all their overcoat all their blankets
again many of them had their shoes taken
that says that they was nearly frose to
death some had even their under coats taken
from them they say that they nearly starved
them to death for days they had nothing
to eat but some beef and no salt to season
it they say that some of the rebel officers
prayed on night as seven dollars a point for salt
it was morgans band that took these prisoners

he has been bother's me every since we
came out in the service if we get ahold
of him i donot know what will be come of him
we will not show him mutch mercy, our colonel
commanding the brigade told us the other
days that if we would catch him he would
give us all a thirty days furlow tell you
the boys are anxious to get ahold of him
when we was ordered out to rein force the
forage train the boys all commenced to
hollowing and saying now for old morgan
will half to bring my letter to a close for the
mail will go out pretty soon. Mat you dont
forgue have i long to see you and Caney but if
this war has to be ended by fighting it will
be along time befor i can come home i always
said that this rebellion could not be put down
by fighting i say so yet they are so fanatical
they will fight if they half to leave not a
it is the opinion here not only in our camp
but in the hole army that this war will
never ~~be ended~~ be ended by fighting it will
half to be ended by a compromise i am afraid
that there will not be any thing of that
kind done in the present congress they can
never end this war as long as they contend for the
nigger as strong as they do ok no more at present
donot forget to write often from your husband
Elias Brady ~~Elias~~
Mat Brady

Mamal forgot to tell George about Sam
for if mon he is a sufferer

Friday December 12th 1862

Dear Wife

i once more take my pen in hand to pen a few lines to yo(u) to in form you that i am well hoping that you ar all injoying the same blessing it has been but a short time since i rote to you George freeman got a letter from bolen green(Bowling Green) stating that Lieu Stutsel was their sick the letter he got was rote by William Siggler no dout but what lieu is in a suffern condition tell George Stutsel that he is in bolen green baracks No 1 i feel in terested in his welfare but we halve not got the priblage(privilege) to see to him i do not know whether george knows whare he is or not (but) he should seek him for a hospital is a awfel plase it is dreded by all the soldiers they seem to dred the hospital more than the battle field their was a big alarm in camp yesterday our forage train was atacted by the Rebels our regiment was out on betaglion(battalion) drille when the alarm was given the signal flags was waving the oficers runing their horses to and fro all over the camp our brigade was marched of(f) on double quick to rein force them our redgiment was out on drill they had nothing on but their dress coats leaving their over coats blankets and evry thing in the camp they was not alowed to stop at the camp long enough to get their things but was ordered offon(off on) double quick we went some five mildes(miles) when the nous(news) come that the fight was over our men suceeded in driving them back it was after dark when we got back to camp we was nearly frose i halve not learnt the perticulars of the battle i expect their was a good many killed for their was amitling(?) hevy force in gagued and they fit a long time last night about midnight our company and to(two) others in our redgiment was ordered out to escort our peroled prisners threw the lines those that was taken at hartsvill near galoten(Gallatin) their was about Sixteen hundred of them i did not go with the boys nor dident see the prisners but what the boys say they was in a suffern condition the rebels had striped them of all their close nearly they had taken all their over coat all their blankets a good many of them had their shoes taken Walt says that they was nearly frose to death some had even their under coats taken from them they say that they nearly starved them to death lots of days they had nothing to eat but some beef and no salt to poot(put) on it they say that some of the rebel oficers payed as high as seven dollars a point(pint?) for salt it was morgans band that took these prisners he has been bothern us evry since we come out in the service if we get aholt of him i do not know what will bcome of him we will not show him mutch murcy our Colonel comanding the briggade told us the other day that if we would ketche him he would give us all a thirty day furlow i tell you the boys ar ancious(anxious) to get aholt of him when we

was ordered out to rein force the forage train the
boys all comensed to hallowing and saying now for old
morgan i will half to bring my letter to a close
for the mail will go out prety soon Mat you donot
know how i long to see you and loney but if this war
has to be ended by fighting it will be along time be-
for i can come home i always said this rebelion
could not be put down by fighting i say so yet they ar
so deturmine they will fight if they half starve to
death it is the opinion here not only in our camp but
in the hull(whole) army that this war will never be
ended by fighting it will half to be ended by a com-
promise i am afraid that their will not be any thing
of that kind done in the present congrass they can
never end this war as long as they contend for the
nigger as strong as they do no more at present
do not forget to rite often

from your husband
Elias Brady
Mat Brady

donot forget to tell George about Lieu
for i know he is suffern

There is no envelope.

Sunday Dec 14th 1862

Dear Wife your letter dated the 7th came to hand last evening it gave me mutch pleasure to hear from you and to hear that you was well iam well with the exception of a bad cold that is a very comen thing here at this this is the first cold ihave had since i came in the service you stated in your letter that you had received our minature iwas glad to hear that they went there safe we are still ~~at~~ camped ~~at the~~ near Nashville ithink we will stay here for some time by the movement in camp their is a general cleaning up of every thing we have our yards be for our tents swept clean and every thing looks nice the heviest forage train iever seen go out went out this mourning all of our regiment went out exceptingour company they are acting as brigade guard old Capt ~~volunteer~~ volunteered and went with them he put on his old blascoat and sholdered a gun and went as a high privet he said that he was ageing to halve a hog before he come in iwish ihad a bin ~~able~~ able to went with him iam athinking that we would a had a couple of hogs iam athinking that the hogs will halve to fight for what they get to stay for they are [illegible] where their is plenty of greesy bellys [illegible] got [illegible] picture yesterday evening he showed it to me it is a very nice picture ithink it is Send it to me that if you can get a good picture of Laneys take it he looks so mutch like his father in the one ihave got ihear sammuch talk about Laney lately

that I can hardly content myself in hart to see him
so bad - I still hang to your picture it is soiled but little
I would not content myself if it was not for that picture
you stated in your letter that uncle Joshua was
coming to see us he has not come yet we looked for him
last night and we look for him to day maybe
he has heared that Jim is well and is not coming
if he has not started tell him that Jim is well
again but tel him to come any way for it will
pay him big and we would like to see him and
as many more of our old friends as can manor to come
we get plenty of news now we get the nashville daily
will
News journal Cincinnati inquirer and sever other
papers the time passes off much faster since
we get plenty of late news to read I rite to you
so often that I can not think of any thing new
to rite this is the 3 letter I have rote to you this
last week Thomas Smith is in the hospital
at nashville the name of the hospital is hospital
No 2 if any of his friends should come to see him
tell them to inquire for that place and they
will find him Henry Brier and Allen Kelley
is at the same hospital I have not heard from
them lately I am not able to say how they are getting
along Jim Hitset is in Camp Butler in my father letter Ben Harris is well
assisted ~~him~~ in my father letter Ben Harris is well
the rest of the boys are roaming around I must bring my letter
to a close rite after we get a daily mail now
I rite after we get a letter
without much better news
present from your
Husband & Brady
Mat Brady
Jonas

Sunday Dec 14th 1862

Dear Wife

your letter dated the 7th came to hand last evning it gave me mutch pleasure to hear from you and to hear that you was well i am well with the exception of a bad cold that is a very comen thing here al tho this is the first cold i halve had since i came in the survice you stated in your letter that you had received our minature i was glad to hear that they went threw safe we ar still camped near Nashville i think we will stay here for some time by the movement in camp their is a generl cleaning up of evry thing we halve our yards befor our tents swep clean and evry thing looks nice the hevist forage train i ever seen go out went out this mourning all of our redgiment went out excepting our company they ar acting as brigade guard old cap volunteered and went with them he poot(put) on his old bloss(?) coat and sholdiered a gun and went as a high privet he said that he was a going to halve a hog before he come in i wish i had a bin able to went with him i am a thinking that we would a had a coupple of hogs i am a thinking that the boys will halve to fight for what they get to day for they ar a going whare their is plenty of greesey belleys Haris(?) got your pictur yesterday evning he showed it to me it is a very nice pictur i think Mat if you can get a good pictur of loneys taken send it to me he looks so mutch like he is asleep in the one i halve got i hear so mutch talk about Loney latly that i can hardly content my self i whant to see him so bad i still hang to your pictur it is soiled but little i could not content my self if it was not for that pictur you stated in your letter that uncle Joshua was coming to see us he has not come yet we looked for him last night and we look for him to day may be he has heared that Jim is well and is not coming if he has not started tell him that Jim is well again but tel him to come any way for it will pay him big and we would like to see him and as many more of our old friends as ar a mind to come we get plenty of news now we get the nashville daily lewisville journal Cincinnati inquire and severl other papers the time passes off mutch faster since we get plenty of late news to read i rite to you so often that i can not think of any thing new to rite this is the 3th letter i halve rote to you this last week Thomas Smith is in the hospital at nashville the name of the haspital is haspital No 2 if any of his friends should come to see him tel them to inquire for that plase and they will find him Henry Brier and Alen Pulley is at the same haspital i halve not heard from them latly i am not able to say how they ar a geting along Lieu Stutsel is in Bolen green(Bowling Green) as i stated in my other letter Ben Harris is well the rest of the boys ar nocking around i must bring my

letter to a close rite often we get a daily mail now
rite often and we can get your letters without mutch
bother i think no more at present

from your Husband
E Brady
Mat Brady
Loney

There is no envelope.

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

Murfreesboro Sunday February 1st 1863

Dear Martha i recieved 5 letters yesterday 2 from you one from William one from Samantha and one from Pa's Brady yours was dated Nov 15th i was glad to hear you was well i recieved the letters after dark their was a large mail came you had beter believe we had a fine time siting round our warm fires reading the letters we cannot injoy ourselves better than we can reading a good letter that has been sent from home

received a dollar and
several in stamps from you
I opened Harries letter I found
the 10 dollars in money several
postage stamps and Mathers
minature I taped the
minature up and post it in
my pocket book I will keep
it in till Harris calls for
it or till I get home I read
the letters 2 of 3 was from papa
2 of 3 from mother 1 from Lizzie
1 from Molley Hepley 1 from
Lalie Swanson one from Lee

one of the letters was from
Miss Sarah J. Buckels
it was quite a interesting
letter i will try and take
care of the letters so that
if harris comes up he can read them
i will keep the money altho
i dont particularly need some
as long as i keep my health
if i should get sick it would
come in play i have nothing
of much importance to rite note
a letter to you yesterday i will
send you a piece of newspaper that
was sent to harris in Jakes letter

give Joey this breastpin
and banner that a package
of paper they were in the
package I will send you as
present some of these days
no more at present Rite often
it does me so much good to
hear from you
from your
affectionate Husband
Elias Brady
Martha
and Joey

Civil War

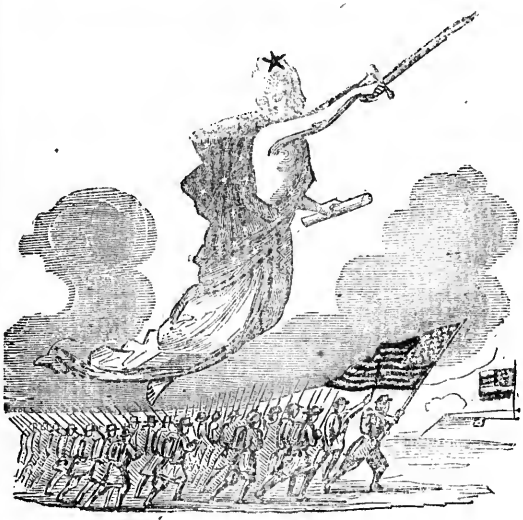
Murfreesboro
Sunday
February 1st
1863

Dear Martha

I received 5 letters yesterday 2 from you one from William one from Mr Gentil and one from Pap Brady yours was dated the 16th I was glad to hear you was well I received the letters after dark their was a large mail came you had beter believe we had a fine time sitting round our warm fires reading the letters we cannot in joy our selves better than we can reading a good letter that has been sent from home I received a dollar and several envelops from you I opened Harrises letter I found the 10 dollars in money several postage stamps and Mothers minature I roped the minature up and put it in my pocket book I will keep it un till Harris calls for it or un till I get home I red the letters 2 or 3 was from pap 2 or 3 from mother 1 from Lizzie 1 from Hosley Hosley 1 from Julia Swank one from W Lee one of the letters was from Miss Sarah J Packets it was quite a interesting letter I will try and take care of the letters so that if harris comes up he can read them I will keep the money altho ido not perticularly need so mutch as long as I keep my health if I should get sick it would com in play I have nothing of mutch importance to rite I rote a letter to you yesterday I will send you a piece of news paper that was sent to harris in Jakes letter give Loney this brestpin and banner I bot a package of paper they ware in the package I will send you a present some of these days no more at present rite often it does me so mutch good to hear from you

from your afectionate Husband
Elias Brady
Martha and Loney

ELIAS BRADY * Age 25; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana August 10, 1862 as a musician in Company D, 86th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered in to serve 3 years September 4th at Indianapolis. He died of small pox December 11, 1863 at Chattanogga, Tennessee, where he is buried.



Nashville

February 13th 1863

Dear Martha I thought I would embrace the present opportunity to write you a few lines in answer to yours of the 30th which came to hand while I was in Nashville there is nothing of much importance going on at the present time the boys around our company drill the old Bissnow that we are going to draw soon and cease before long unable to day we mead them instead a pair of pants

understand the pay master is around
he will be not to give a receipt before
we of signing it Sign the pay roles to
day my word you but we pitt well
there is a nice train go down from the
navy yard of things there
will be a worter fight be not long
35.00 reinforcements came in the after day
they brought with them several
batteries and a pontoon bridge
they had a small time getting here
with the bridge they gathered us
on the road from west ville so that
we had to lay out two nights in the
road the train came down with two
very long trains there all of three
miles long the roads are almost impassable
they were ahead of us with their bridge
we blasted out of Somerset 9 o'clock
the day morning the marching with the
bridges detained us so that we did not
get more than five miles that day

unloaded in the road we got ready
at night. orders were then in to have
dinner and feed our mules we left four
wagons standing in the road turned
our mules round to the wagons fed them
built us a fire got us a pile of lumber
and layed down until morning
the next morning we were ordered to drive
round the bombardier bridge in water knee deep
and air all the times again we saw we had
them after driving drawing mules down
hearing wagon tongs we did not get
more than five miles that day we
stopped on the road turned our mules
round fed them built us a big fire
then we commenced living we boiled in
a feed kettle a ham fat out 30 or 4
bulles a barrel of flour bread upon
a keg of onions fritter upon a barrel
of sugar we had a nice supper we had
nice ham flap jacks fried onions we made
some nice molasses out of sugar

we breakfast on a few tallow candles and had
a mighty little to eat we supped by the quarter
master came along while we were eating our
supper he says boys your pair pine to night
we told him we could not carve in your pair
we'll have there is nothing else it
we wrote fifteen to take supper with
us he thanked us he said he had been
to supper the most morning we had a
good breakfast then started on our
journey we got in camp about dark yesterday
evening we expect spring mustering
to close in a few days we will have to
go and draw our pairs of pants write to
letter cannot think of anything else to
write just a letter from Frank Hixson
and we found Malinda they came while
we was in nashville Ben Carpenter got a letter
yesterday evening he stay Malia in the
letter that Hixson Little girl
was dead we expect spring you letter to
before write after us for letters as
frequently as they can on the road
no more at present

from your husband

E. Brady

Mat Brady

James Brady

write often
write soon
don't forget
to write

Civil War

Murfreesboro
February 13th 1863

Dear Martha

It is with pleasure that I take the present opportunity to rite you a few lines in answer to yours of the 30th which came to hand while I was in Nashville. There is nothing of any importance going on at the present time the boys are out on dress parade. The talk is now that we are a going to draw new clothes of a long sale to day we need them in all a pair of pants. I understand the pay master is around he will be apt to give us a roll before long we are going to pay the pay rolls to day. My dear you sent me fifty roll that I have paid a pair of boots. From the movements of things here I think there will be another fight be for long. The rebels are in the other day they brought with them several battalion and a pontoon bridge they had a rueful time getting here with the bridge they bothered us on the road from Nashville so that we had to lay out two nights on the road. The train I came out with was every long train it was all of three miles long. The rebels did not get [illegible]. They were ahead of us with their bridge. We started out of town about a [illegible] yesterday morning there stalling with the bridges detained us so that we did not get [illegible] that day. We stood in the road untill [illegible] o'clock at night (when) orders came then for us to unhitch and feed our mules we left our wagons standing in the road turned our mules round to the wagons fed them built a fire got us a bite of supper and layed down untill morning. The next morning we were ordered to drive round the pontoon bridges we under took it and of all the times you ever saw we left them stalling and going miles down breaking wagon tongs we did not get more than five miles that day. We stopped on the road turned our mules round fed them built a big fire then we commenced living we busted in a hard hold of lard took out 5 or 6 busted a barrel of flour broke open a bag of onions busted open a barrel of sugar. We had a nice supper we had nice hot flapjacks fried onions we made some nice molasses out of sugar. We break open a box of candles and had a nice lite to eat our supper by. The quartermaster came along while we was a eating our suppers he says boys you fair fine tonight. We tell him we could not complain of our fair well and he their is nothing like it we invited him to take supper with us he thanked us he said he had been to supper. The next mourning we had a good breakfast at then started on our journey we got in camp about dark yesterday evening. Well I must bring my scribbling to a close. Our mess close but some I will half to go and draw me a pair of pants. Write often (I) cannot think of any thing

[illegible] to write. I got a letter from Frank Hanson and [illegible] from [illegible] was in Louisville [illegible] when got a letter just [illegible] [illegible] the letter first [illegible] Anna's little girl was [illegible] [illegible] there to a school. Write often [illegible] letters are frequently delayed on the road. [illegible]

For your husband
L. Brady
[illegible] Brady
Lonzo Brady

Write often
Write now
Don't forget to write

[illegible] W. Age 23; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana August [illegible], [illegible] private in Company D, 38th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered in to serve 3 years September 4th. He died of small pox on December 11, 1864 at Chattanooga, Tennessee where he is buried.

LIBERTY AND UNION.

Murfreesboro
February 18th 1863

Dear Hal it is with pleasure that I take the present opportunity to write your few lines in acknowledgement that came safe to hand when I was where that paper could be found I will find you all the same the beginning of month finds us still at Murfreesboro the mail came in about noon today there was no letter for me William Sigler got a letter from Col Cof

2 telling that he was incidentally
and his wound was getting better
he said, he wanted he said
to come back home in a few days to
have that his wound was getting
better for we mustn't let anybody
understand we are the people that
Harris is in prison at Tarboro, we
am afraid that it will mean
time to get Harris in prison
the other is very disagreeable
it seems needed, we the boys
we got acquainted and I think
we have a good deal enjoyed
our time but it blew so hard last
night it seemed as hard that
the debts could not carry the
water off quick enough it overflowed
and though we don't invited
again the night found myself
lodging in a puddle of water
got up in a hurry you had better
believe instead the other boys got
in bed I afire and slept on
the rest of the night we had
quite a alarm the other night
after we had went to bed orders
came for us to fall in line of battle
the rebels was crossing Stone River
we had better think there was
quite a stir in Co D I gathered
my clothes down out in my tent, just
commenced beating the long roll
the other boys gathered their guns
pass out some parking on their shoes
they came out we stood in line

in battle 3 days when orders
came for us to go to Orlando as guards
there we were surprised by a few rebels
crossing the river in landing they killed
our picket & wounded one of them
in private in stealing their gunner
as they should they can only be
found the rebels crossing the river
the least alarm in the country
will alarm the whole country
our pay master is here but has
not paid us yet I was a making
out the pay roll to day it takes
he and I two days in a pay day
I will close to write I write you
what of more news write soon
from your affectionate husband E. Brady
Pleasantville Iowa, Adal Lonas

Civil War

Murfreesbor
February 10th 1863

Dear Mat

it is with pleasure that itake the present oportunity to write you a few lines to inform you that iam well as usel hoping when these few lines come to hand it will find you all the same i halve nothing of mutch importance to write today the male came in a few minutes ago their was no letters for me William sigler got a letter from old Cass stating that he was in indianoplis and his wound was getting better he thought he would be able to come back soon i was glad to hear that his wound was getting better for we miss him very mutch i understand by the papers that Harris is in prisin at atlanta, ga i am afraid that it will be some time be for Harris will get released the wether is very disagreeable it rained all the time we got drounded out last night we halve got a litch dug round our tent but it don no good last night it rained so hard that the ditch could not carry the water off fast enough it over flowed and run through our tent (I) waked up in the night (and) found myself laying in a puddle of watter i got up in a hurry you had better believe i waked the other boys up we built a fire and stayed up the rest of the night we had quite a alarm the other night after we had went to bed orders came for us to fall in line of batle the rebels was crossing Stone river you had better think their was quite a stir in Co D i gethered my drum ran out in my sock feet (and) commenced beeting the long rool the other bays gethered their guns ran out some peeting on their shoes as they came out we stood in line of battle 2 or 3 hours when orders came for us to go back to our bunks the alarm was cassed by afew rebels crossing the river intending to goble our pickets our cavalry pickets seen them in plase of standing their ground as they should they ran and reported the rebels crossing the river the least alarm in the world will alarm the hull camp our pay master is here but has not paid us yet (he) were ansing out the pay rools to day i think he will pay us in a few days i will half to quit scribling for the whant of more room write often

from your afectionate husband
E Brady
Mat Brady

please write soon)

ELIAS BRADY * Age 25; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana as a Musician in Company D, 26th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered in for 3 years service

September 4th at Indianapolis. He died December 11, 1863 from small pox at Chattanooga, Tennessee and is buried there in the National Cemetery.

general field hospital No 6
ward D June 3rd 63.

Dear companion yours
of the 27th came to hand to day
I was glad to hear that you was
all well my health is not very
good at present I am now at the
general field hospital I was brought
here last evening our regiment was
under marching orders and was ordered
to send all the sick and convalescents
a way John Independence is here
with me he is very sick with the fever
Hall came over to day and brought
my letter to me he said the regiment
was still under marching orders and
was liable to leave at any moment
I guess there is a general move on hand
they are moving all the sick and
wounded out of Murfreesboro and are
fetching them over here the general

hospital is inside the parliament house
I think that is the reason they are
moving them out of unsuspected
and bringing them here I have
been very sick for seven days
but am some better now and
I think I will be able to go to the
regiment in a few days this is a
nice clean place and the sick are
well cared for I am so much more
nervous that I cant hardly write
you must excuse this short letter
and write often I must close
hoping this may find you all well
write soon good bye
from your affectionate Husband E. Brady
Mat Brady
Torrey Brady

And though the mercury may rise and fall
yet love remains the same

hospital is inside the parallelisms.
I think that is the reason they are
moving them out of unsuspected place
and bringing them here I have
been very sick for some days
but am home better now and
I think I will be able to go to the
regiment in a few days this is a
nice clean place and the sick are
well cared for I am so weak and
nervous that I cant hardly write
you must excuse this short letter
and write often I must close
hoping this may find you all well
write soon good bye
from your affectionate Husband & Brother
Albert Brady
James Brady

dear Hannah the messenger waits and I am
made haste to close

generlfield hospital No 6
ward D June 3 /63

Dear Campanion

yours of the 27th came to hand to day I was glad to hear that you was all well my health is not very good at present I am now at the generl field hospital I was brought here last evning our regiment was under marching orders and was ordered to send all the sick and convalesents a way John Alexander is here with me he is very sick with the fever Walt came over to day and brought my letter to me he said the regiment was still under marching orders and was liable to leave at any moment I guess their is a generl move on hand they ar moving all the sick and wounded out of Murfreesboro and ar fetching them over here the generl hospital is in side the fortifycations I think that is the reason they ar moving them out of murfreesboro and bringing them here I halve been very sick for severl days but am some better now and I think I will be able to go to the regiment in a few days this is a nice clean place and the sick is well caired for I am so weak and nervous that I cant hardly write you must excuse this short letter and write often I must close hoping this may find you all well write soon good bye

from your afection Husband

E Brady

Mat Brady
Loney Brady

dont through the invelop away unless you will have no letter

There is no envelope.

[illegible]
[illegible] it

June 11th 1863

Not my paper is [illegible]
you I thought it [illegible]
[illegible] the other day and
this is a question a
[illegible] my little Thomas
May make out and say
that in to our [illegible]
to make nice little
Thomas out of it they got
their [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] I can [illegible]
[illegible] it [illegible]
[illegible] and that
you can have
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

BIG SEMPER TYRANNIS

over Sabbath to get
home to-day but from
appearances it will be
a long time before
I can solve the question
you must have patience
let us once see it
write soon & good by
from your affectionate
Husband E. Brady
Mat Brady
Louisa Brady

Civil War

burn this as Soon as you read it
June 11th /63

Met

My paper is very poor I bought a package of paper the other day and this is a specimen of the fancy little Sheats they halve cut a big Sheet in to and aned(ained) to make nice littl Sheats out of it they got their pictur rong end up well I can Scribl on it let it pit this Small Sheet you can burn as soon as you read it over I want to get home so bad but I am a fraid it will be a long time be for I can halve the opurtunity you must burn this let no one see it write soon good by from your afect-ionate Husband

E Brady
Nat Brady
Lonzo Brady

It is quite possible that Elias Brady's request for his wife to burn this letter is due to the State Seal of Virginia and his fear that because of it, it might be assumed that he was disloyal to the Union cause.

ELIAS BRADY * Age 25; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana August 10, 1862 as a musician in Company D, 88th Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered in to serve 3 years September 4th. He died of small pox December 11, 1863 at Chattanogga, Tennessee where he is buried in the National Cemetery.

Camp near [illegible]
June 28th 63

Dear and affectionate Companion

I received your kind letter of the [illegible] 9th a few minutes ago & was glad to hear you was well I am well hoping when this [illegible] message comes to hand it will find you enjoying the same blessing [illegible] write to you last we was expecting [illegible] at the front on the [illegible] commencing [illegible] about the [illegible] about [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] prisoners [illegible] last night about [illegible] they [illegible] [illegible] they [illegible] in the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] them [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] them [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] them [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] I wrote you [illegible] since you left Lexington
[illegible] I [illegible] very [illegible] I [illegible]
[illegible] I [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible] Admiral Dahlgren's [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The day before sent them with Stonewall
Thomas if you will make the left wing
[illegible] the [illegible] with horses and
one hour full time is not so you may not come
you to your [illegible] get a little long with Lee
to do [illegible] from your Jackson you [illegible]
and [illegible] that is the reason Washington
Now it is no use to gloss over [illegible] the
movements and manœuvre give us victory [illegible] worth of Hooker
be at home [illegible] of the [illegible] to press so [illegible]
is but [illegible] line [illegible] angle [illegible] [illegible] of
[illegible] and [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
but [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
better of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
I [illegible] that the [illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Mat [illegible]

[illegible] things concerning [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] 2 months ago [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Indian [illegible]

[illegible] months [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] hands

Husband [illegible] being [illegible]

with [illegible] Mat Beezly Sary Beezly

To [illegible]

[illegible] 21st [illegible]

[illegible]

Camp near Murfreesboro
June 29th /63

Dear and afectionate Companion
I received your kind letter dated 21th a few minutes a go I was glad to hear you was well I am well hoping when this Silent message comes to hand it will find you injoying the same blessing when I wrote to you last we was expecting to go to the front but the order was countermanded we still remain in camp the report about our mail being stoped for 12 days was fals we get our mail regular all the time and will unless we should half to go to the front then I susapose we would not get mutch mail our men brought in 700 priseners last night about mid night they captured them at Shelbyville they had a big fight our men took pocession of the town our army is still advancing the last acount we had our left and right wings was prety near to Tallahoma(Tullahoma,Tenn.) the center of the army was some 10 or 12 ms from here we ar guarding these priseners close to our camp (we) will send them North this evning I guess I had a long talk with some of them some of them is very saucy others ar tired of the war one man told me that they would fight us as long as they could find a corn to eat I asked him what they would do when we drove them out of Tennasee he said we hadent drove them out yet I told him that we would drive them out befor this battle is over he was very saucy we had it prety rough for a while the guard came along and made me stand back if I had a daired I would a went for his meat house(?) it is a raining it has been raning prety mutch since the army first mad a forward move teems ar going to the front by the thousands taking suplies to the army all of our brigade teems went out this mourning 9 teems from our regt we sent out our usel number of pickets this mourning orders came a few minuts a go for more pickets our company is sending out 15 more men nearly all the co is out on picket they ar expecting a atact in the rear they ar going to duble the pickets Colonel Dick told us this mourning that he thought that we would stay here they war expecting the enimy to atack us in the rear he (t)hought we would halve all the fighting we whanted without going to the front it is hard to tell we halve so many difernt orders we may march to night and may not move at all we dont know mutch more about our moves than you do I received three letters yesterday one from Pap one from Ma one from Adaline I answered them last evning they started out this mourning you sayed that you had a mail twice a week and looked for a letter evry mail but was disapointed a good many times if I was to write you a letter evry day you wouldent get a letter evry male the male goes just when it pleases they ar very carlis I wrote you a letter day befor yesterday and one the day befor sent them with C B Thompson I think if you will notice the date of all my letters you will find that I write twice a week some

times three times a week so you must not blame me if you dont get a letter evry mail I love to get letters from you I expect you like to hear from me often that is the reason I write so often

Mat it is no use to grieve and fret it dont mend the mater but I would give all I expect to be worth if I could be at home injoying my self like I was a year a go their is but little time passes over but what I am thinking of you and loney Some of the boys injoy them selves here but I would rather be at home I could content my self better if they war(were) trying to end the war but it is a speculating scheme our leading men ar making money and they dont try to stop the war their is men enough in the North to crush this rebellion in a short time why dont they bring them out I understand that the rebels ar in vading pencilvany(Pennsylvania) I dont cimphathise(sympathize) one bit with them if they would burn evry thing in the state it would be a good thing if as large a state as pencilvany cant protect her self she aught to suffer mabe(maybe) this rade(raid) will open some of their eyes I think it will be a help to the union cauis it is easy to stay at home and talk but when it comes to acting they will find it not so easy I expect their is men in the North that hardly knows their is a war let them come to dixsey they will see different Mat I could sit here and write a week on things concerning the war and my opinion in regard to the way it is carried on but it does no good and I am sure it dont interest you so I will stop writing on that subject

health is good in camp and we get plenty to eat potatoes bread and meat we dont get many luxuries a Cherry pie wouldent go bad about this time of day uncle Sam has not come around with his greenback yet probly wont for severl months we made out our pay roles(rolls) prety near 2 months ago but all the good it don I recon(reckon) if we dont get it we wont spend it evry thing we buy we half to pay 40 prices for so a little money dont go far a big storm is a comming up I guess I halve scribled enough I halve wrote a big letter hant said mutch neither so I will bring it to a close I whant you to write often I would like to get a letter evry mail if I could but that is out of the question we get a daily mail here (If I) cant get a letter evry male I whant to get a letter evry third mail any way write soon good bye

from your ever afectionate Husband

E Brady

Mat Brady Loney Brady

write soon

PS I received a letter from you sometime ago it was dated 18th I received it 21st three days after it was rote it was maled at Lafayette this last letter was maled at (? *) dated 9 days ago now you can see how unregular the male comes

There is no envelope.

* Williamsport

(Williamsport)

Camp near Wilderness
March 14th 1864
Monday Morn

Dear Pa

Dear Pa I have not heard from you for a long time the last letter I wrote by you was while you were in Lafayette I sent you a draft I suppose it went through all right I believe William wrote in one of his letters that it had got through all right. we are still in camp at the above named place. how long we may remain here I am not able to say this is the best place to stop at we have been since we left that never to be forgotten place Bromy. send me a N.Y. Tribune. once in while wrap it up tight every thing appears in favor of the Feds at present. I hope it may continue

Very respectfully Marion Gage

Camp at Mammoth Hill
August 10th 1863

Dear Companion

you up there
come to hand last evening
I was happy glad to hear that
you was well my health
is good Harris week Pap
a few lines on this sheet we
have got mail news to write
we thought we could better
on the same sheet Harris
is going out on picket this
morning we have in mind
to write morning health is
good in camp a few passage
hair sheets and this morning
going out rifles what we have
got cabin shelter tent we
we got the best of brave
we are living off on the southern
confederacy a separate government
the other day was gone two days

they brought in a large flock
of sheep 25 or thirty head of
cattle we have plenty enough
for breakfast I was sorry to hear
of Sr Bartlett many a brave
man has fallen in this cruel war
you say relative to what life may
be lost in 23rd they may say what
they please or think what they please
I have seen enough every day we
see women and children coming
in to our lines giving themselves
up and taking the oath begging
for bread they are suffering terribly
some of their husbands are in
the Southern army some are in
the mountains hiding trying to
shun the conscript. Perry is
going down to the picket lines
to get some potatoes he is going
to take a half pint of salt
a pint of coffee he thinks he
may get a bushel of potatoes

the citizens are anxious to buy
Salt on offer they give us very cheap
price. we have got a good Salt
in Shell. I hope the mail can
in reasonable time. I gave the
mail and the office when distributing
I gave Bill Hickman Shell
letter through a mistake Bill
is nearly content never it may
well be he under it to you Gone
to see what it was from. we have
it was Shelly letter was that his
girl have sent him your letter
when his girl is dead the distant
well. write as the letter you
sent me fifteen following and after
was safer you see in the thirty it
in of range to take a man life
in that way it does look hard
to take a man life in cool blood
but it is the law we have it has
to be a penalty probably the most
will take place you speaking
the meetings I wonder little to hear
home the Lord in the manner
I think the man certainly deserved
and must think I am that
write soon from your affectionate
Husband E Brady

write soon } Mat Brady

mimsville Tenessee
August 10th / 63
Monday Morn

John Gass

dear Pa

I have not heard from you for a long time the last letter wrote by you was while you were in Lafayette I sent you a draft I suppose it went through all right I believe William wrote in one of his letters that it had got through all O.K. We are still in camp at the above place how long we may remain here I am not able to say this is the best place to stop at we have been since we left that never to be forgotten place home. Send me a N.Y. tribune once in (a)while wrap it up tight everything appears in favor of the Feds at present, I hope it may continue

Very respectfully
Harris Gass

Camp at Memmnsville
August 10th / 63

Dear Companion

Yours of the 2nd came to hand last evning I was truly glad to hear tha(t) you was well my health is good Harris wrote Pop a few lines on this Sheat we hant got mutch news to write we thought we could both write on the same sheat Harris is going out on picket this mourning (and) wont be in untill to morrow mourning (The) health is good in camp alarge forage train starts out this mourning going out after wheat we halve quit eating sheetiron crackers we get the best of bread we ar living of on the Southern Confedercy a squad went out the other day was gon too(two) days they brought in a large flock of sheep 25 or thirty head of cattle we had fried corn for breakfast I was sory to hear of Jo Borders death amany a brave man has falen in this cruel war you say adaline did not like my letter of the 23d they may say what they please or think what they please I halve seen enough evry day we see women and children comming in to our lines giving them selves up and taking the oath beging for suport they ar suffering starving some of their Husbands ar in the Southern army some ar in the mountain hiding trying to shun the con Script Pery is going down to the picket lines to get some patatoes he is going to take a half pint of salt a pint of coffee he thinks he will get a bushel of potatoes the citazens ar anxious to buy salt an coffee they give us our own price we halve got a good joke on Walt the mail came in very late last evning I got the mail out (of) the office while distributing (it) I gave

Bill Hickman Walts letter through a mistake Bill is near cited couldent read it very well so he handed it to Tom Graves to see what it was from and behold it was Walts letter one that his girl had sent him you know who his girl is I guess they dident read mutch of the letter you sent me a piece taking out of a newspaper you seem to think it very rong to take a mans life in that way it does look hard to take a mans life in coal(cold) blood but it is the law and their has to be a exanple prably the rest will take warning you speak of the meetings I would like to be at home the best in the world I think the war is nearly played (out) and must(most?) thinks (so) any how write soon

from your afectionate Husband
E Brady
Mat Brady

write soon

There is no envelope. Harris Gass was the brother-in-law of Elias Brady.

HARRIS GASS * Age 22; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana as a Second Lieutenant in Company "D", Eighty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry August 10, 1862, and was mustered in for three years September 4th at Indianapolis. He was promoted to First Lieutenant on June 5, 1863 and was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee on June 6, 1865.

ELIAS BRADY * Age 25; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana on August 10, 1862 as a Musician in Company "D", Eighty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered in to serve three years September 4th at Indianapolis. He died at Chattanooga, Tennessee on December 11, 1863.

Chattanooga Sept 21st 1863

Dear Companion

I have the opportunity to write
you a few lines to inform
you that I was well & hearty
tell you a few days ago
in a battle the rebs was
to fall back to this place
we are fortifying they keep us
a shelling with our artillery
this has been the biggest battle
ever was fought and
it is not over yet it is
hard to tell how it will
end but we are in good
all hours the lines to
day he satisfied to all the boys
that then to stand their ground
they tell us that if we wander
from this place we wander
home in six months the rain that
we was fighting the Southern
Confederacy here I believe it

I am writing this by the
fire light the mail goes out
in the morning I can't write
much I ought to write a few
lines but I can't my paper
and inkstand are on the other side
of the river you can let him
see this I merely write to let you
know that I am well and numbered
among the living Wall was not
in the fight he was not very
well Perry is well and is gone to
the river after matter Flora
is well the boys are generally
well Sarah Jane
hath as usual dear Sister
William left Richards and
don't know what has become
of them I will write again
in a few days

Chattanooga Sept 24th /63

Dear Companion

I once more take the opertunity to write you a few lines to inform you that I am well I wrote to you a few days a go (and) told you that we had been in a battle the rebs was too mutch for us we had to fall back to this place we ar fortifying the rebs ar advancing our artilery is a shelling them now this has been the bigest battle that ever was faught and it is not over yet it is hard to tell how it will end old Rosecrans road(rode) all round the lines to day he talked to all the boys told them to stand their ground he told us that if we could hold this place he would send us all home in six months he said that we was fighting the Southern Confederacy here and I believe it

I am writing this by the fire light the mail goes out in the mourning I cant write mutch I aught to write Pap a few lines but I cant my paper and invelops ar on the other side of the river you can let him see this I mearly write to let you know that I am well and numbered among the living Wallt was not in the fight he was not very well Pery is well and is gon to the river after watter(water) Harris is well the boys ar generly well Jacob Lamb Don Shaw both ar wounded Richards and Willison ar both missing dont know what has bee come of them I will write again in a few days write soon

from your Husband

E Brady

The envelope is addressed "Mrs Martha H. Brady, Rainsville Warren Co, Indiana" and is franked with a 3 Cents United States stamp, Issue of 1861 and postmarked "Nashville Tenn - Oct 4".

Hospital 3rd Division 4th A.C.
Chattanooga Dec 18th 63

Dear Companion

I write in answer to yours of the 27th which came to hand last evening I was truly glad to hear from you Lieut Turk brought my mail to me I received 3 letters one from you one from H. Hudson and one from Pap I also received Paps photograph I think Pap looks older than when I left home he writes that his eyes are very sore I think he exposes himself more than he should Perry was here yesterday he tells me the rest of the boys are well the rebs still occupy lookout mountain I hear this morning that we have got

T. 64 pound guns and 2 100 pound
guns down at the river their
was a detail went to help
get them a cross the river
I think the Reb will half
to skedaddle when they get
them planted
this is Sunday it has been
a lonesom day to me the
wind is blowing very hard
we generly have preaching
every Sunday but the preacher
has not been round yet
a preacher stoped in yesterday
evening sung a hym and
made a short prayer it is
after 4 o'clock almost Supper time
I expect you all went to
Cherry point to meeting and
had a good time I always
think of you on Sunday
wondering what you are doing

and wondering who is at
Pops for dinner
I see in the papers that
old Abe is calling for more
men thinks it best to offer
a large bounty in order to
get them to volunteer
we should go to drafting and
that immediatly we need
more men and have matter
long enough if we could a had
more men at the late battle
Chickamauga we could a defeated
the rebs and drive them out of
georgia in place we had to fall
back to Chattanooga and as
holding it by the hardest
this army will not be able
to advance this winter on
account of supplies I did think
some time a go that this
war was nearly over but

the prospect looks more
gloomy now poor management
some where but I am no General
or President not capable of advising
so I will spare on that subject
it is a getting late I will
hold to bring my scribbling to a
close I hear the cannonading
some one is getting hurt
you wonder to know which letter
I red first when I receive yours
I wonder if you obtained letters in
one in reply I looked at the stream
found who they was from then
red your letter first I know
your have write can always tell
when I get a letter from you with
out looking at the name
please write often good bye
from your affectionate Husband

E. Brady

Mat

Lower

Hospital 3th Division 4th A.C.
Chattanooga Tenn Nov 8th/63

Dear Companion

I write in answer to yours of the 29th which came to hand last evning I was truily glad to hear from you Lieut Deturk braught my mail to me I received 3 letters one from you one from H Hixson and one from Pap I also received Paps photograph I think Pap looks older than when I left home he writes that his eyes ar sore I think he exposes him self more than he should Pery was here yesterday he tells me the rest of the boys ar well the rebs still ocupy lookout mountain I hear this mourning that we halve got 7 - 64 pound guns and 2 - 100 pound guns down at the river their was a detail went to help get them a cross the river I think the rebs will half to skedaddle when they get them planted

this is Sunday it has been a lonesom day to me the wind is blowing very hard we generly halve preaching evry Sunday but the preacher has not been round yet a preacher stoped in yesterday evning sung a him and made a short prayer it is after 4 oclock almost supper time I expect you all went to Chery point to meeting and had a good time I always think of you on Sunday wondering what you ar doing and wondering who is at Paps for dinner

I see in the papers that old Abe is calling for more men (he) thinks it best to offer a large bounty in order to get them to volunteer he should go to drafting and that amediatly we nead more men and halve wated(waited) long enough if we could a had more men at the late battle (of) Chickmaugh we could a defeated the rebs and drive them out of georga in place we had to fall back to Chattanooga and ar holding it by the hardest this army will not be able to advance this winter on acount of suplies I did think some time a go that this war was nearly over but the prospect looks more gloomy now poor management some whare but I am no General or Presedent not capable of advising so I will quit on that subject it is a getting late I will half to bring my Scribling to a Close I hear hevy Cannonading some one is getting hurt you whanted to know which letter I red first when I received yours ~~Somon thei~~ and Adalines Samantha letters in one invelop I looket at them found who they war(were) from then red your letter first I know your hand write(writing) (and) can always tell when I get a letter from you with out looking at the name pleas write often good bye

from your afectionate Husband
E. Brady

Mat
Loney

There is no envelope.

Hospital 9th Div. 4th A.C.
Chattanooga Tenn Nov 25
Dear Companion
I once more write
to inform you how we are
getting a long I am well
with the exception of a bad
cold there is a bloody Battle
in progress at this time
the fight commenced last Monday
I have not seen any of our
reg't since Sunday our div
charged the rebel works
on Monday morning quite
a number of of wounded
came in but none from
our Brigade General Hooker
drove the rebs from off
Lookout mountain yesterday
took quite a number of prisoners

I stood on the porch
of the upper story of our Hospital
and saw the fight it was
a grand sight our men
made 21 charges on the
rebels works I hear this evening
that our men clum the
missionary ridge to day
our colors are ~~flutting~~ waving
over the enemys strong works
our Division charged up
the hill late this evening
I am anxious to hear from
the Boys wounded men
are coming in all the time
we have taken in some
40 or 50 in this Hospital
most of them are sent to
the Post hospital the
streets are full of prisoners

and still they come
all the news we get is
favorable on our side
General Sherman crossed the
river last night 6 miles
above here we hear his army
a fighting to day on the left
one continuel roar of musketry
our army has been successful
every day yet I am afraid
the scale will turn before
they get through a good begining
makes a bad ending
a wounded Major came in
this evening he tells that
the rebs war falling back
when he was wounded he
says that our men are falling
them up he thinks the rebel
army is completly demoralized

500 prisoners going home
I cannot give you the particulars
now so I will bring my
scribbling to a close
I received a letter from
you day before yesterday you
say that you are getting
Loneys photograph taken
over as going to send it
in your next letter
it will be several days
before I will get it for I expect
it will be some time before
I will see the regiment
write often for I do like
to hear from you good Bye

E Brady
Mot. Loney

Hospital 9th Div. 4 A.C.
Chattanooga Tenn Nov 25

Dear Companion

I once more write to inform you how we ar getting a long I am well with the exception of a bad cold their is a bloody Batle in progress at this time the fight commens last Monday I halve not seen any of our regt since Sunday our Div charged the rebel works a(on) Monday mourning quite a number of wounded came in but non from our Brigade General Hooker drove the rebs from off lookout mountain yesterday (and) took quite a number of priseners I stood on the poarch of the uper story of our Hospital and saw the fight it was a grand sight our men made 21 charges on the rebels works I hear this evning that our men clum the missionary ridge today our collars(colors) ar waving over the enimys(enemmies) strong works our Division charged up the hill late this evning I am anxious to hear from the Boys wounded men ar comming in all the time we halve taken in some 40 or 50 in the Hospital most of them ar sent to the Post hosputal the streets ar full of priseners and still they come all the news we get is favorable on our side General Sherman crossed the river last night 6 miles above here we hear his army fighting to day on the left one continuel roar of musketry our army has been sucessful evry day yet I am afraid the scale will turn befor they get throug(h) a good begining makes a bad ending

a wounded Major came in this evning he tells that the rebs war(were) pulling back when he was wounded he sais that our men ar following them up he thinks the rebel army is completly demoralized 500 priseners (are) going buy now I cannot give you the perticulars now so I will bring my Scribling to a close I received a letter from you day befor yesterday you say that you ar gettings Loneys photograph taken and ar going to send it in your next letter it will be severl days befor I will get it for I expect it will be some time before I will see the regiment write often for I do like to hear from you good Bye

E Brady
Mat, Loney

The envelope is addressed "Mrs Martha H. Brady, Rainsville, Warren Co, Ind." and is franked with a 3 Cents United States stamp, Issue of 1861 and is cancelled with a canceller and postmarked "Nashville Tenn - Nov 30(?)"(1863).

This letter, dated November 25, 1863, is the last of the Elias Brady letters. Elias Brady, Musician, Company "D", 86th Regiment, ~~Iowa~~ Indiana Volunteer Infantry died on December 11th, some 2½ weeks after writing this letter.

Chattanooga Tenn
Dec 3d 1863

Father [illegible]

Dear Pa. I have no news to write that amounts to anything. I have been working every day [illegible] [illegible] several days [illegible] Martha would be anxious to hear of her friends [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] being [illegible] I will tell you [illegible] and [illegible] the matter [illegible] you can tell Martha I will not tell her you [illegible] what is best. [illegible] the Small Pox is very bad and is moved across the river [illegible] a regular Small Pox Hospital [illegible] sick to be moved but it had to be did, [illegible] with

What disease
is not allowed in a hospital
[illegible] and all contagious diseases
are [illegible] cases of
[illegible] I suppose they do not
[illegible] [illegible] will [illegible] on
[illegible] [illegible] when he
[illegible] a [illegible]

When any of your people
[illegible] [illegible] direct
[illegible] [illegible] I will
[illegible] [illegible] him
[illegible] do not allow any person
[illegible] them. They do not
want the disease to spread
I hope [illegible] will get along
all right.

For the present I will
close remain Your [illegible]
H. F. Yeaw

Chattanooga Tenn
Dec 3d 1863

John Gass

Dear Pa

I have no news to write that amounts to anything I have been writing every day to some of you for several days I new that Martha would be anxious to hear from Elias it being the only way she can here is from what I write he not being able to write I will tell you first how he is and what the matter is. you can tell Martha I will not tell her you no what is best. Elias has the Small Pox (and) is very bad and is moved across the river to a regular Small Pox Hospital he was to sick to be moved, but it had to be did, as one with that disease is not allowed in a Hospital where Wounded and other diseases are. there are several cases of the Small Pox here. I do not no whether I will take it or not I was with Elias when he had a high fever

When any of you write to him you had better direct the letters to me, and I will try and send them to him they do not allow any person to go see them, they do not want the disease to spread I hope Elias will get along all right.

for the present I will Close

from your Son

H J Gass

There is no envelope.

Cassville Ga May 22nd 1864

Mrs A. K Brady.

Dear Sister

I have not received a letter from you for a long while only in that case — you are aware long before this that the word is to put this rebellion down this I hope I trust this may be being done along the last 15 days surely. the army has been resting here for 3 days. we start again in the morning with 20 days rations — to do 36 days besides five days we carry — which makes 41. in that time with the army we have here we expect to clean out the devilish confederacy at the cost of a great many of our lives but fighting is all that will put down this rebellion and we that are in the field at present will have it to do — my health is I received my shirts yesterday was glad to get them the weather is very warm I saw Lieut Beach yesterday he is well. also saw William Nagright he was slightly wounded at Resaca. — no more this time Yours Brother A. Gage

Jul. 6 1864

Head Quarters Military Commander,

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec 11th 1863

Sir:

You will acknowledge the receipt of this notice, of the following discharge from your Company, made at this Post, upon Surgeon's Certificate of disability:

Private John Schoolcraft, 24th Nov. 1863. for Gun Shot Wound of left foot at Stone River

Respectfully
Your Obt. Svt.
L. Simerson
Col. U.S.A.
Military Condr

Return this paper with no very pleasant grounds
Lewis Miller
Harris

To the Officer Commanding Co. C
86th Reg't Ind. Vols.

Cassville Ga May 22nd 1864

Mrs M. K Brady.

Dear Sister

I have recd no letter from you for a long while. why is that the case. -- you are aware long before this that the word is to put this rebellion down this summer by fighting this Corps has been doing its share the last 15 days surely. the army has been resting here for 3 days, we start again in the morning with 20 days rations to do 36 days besides five days we carry which makes 41, in that time with the army we have here we Expect to clean out the Southern Confedrsey at the cost of a great many of our lives, but fighting is all that will put down this rebellion, and we that are in the field at present will have it to do. my health is (good). I recd my shirts yesterday (and) was glad to get them the weather is very warm I saw Lieut. Beach yesterday, he is well, also saw William Nordrift he was slightly wounded at rasacke(Resaca?). -no more this time

Your Brother
H Gass
Liut. Co D 86 Rgt

The letter is written on the reverse side of an Order directing the discharge of Private John Schoolcraft due to wound of left foot received at Stone River and signed by J.S.Simonson, Col. U.S.A. Military Comdr. Written at the bottom of the order is

"Excuse this paper it is very scarce here give my love to Mother

Harris"

There is no envelope.

HARRIS GASS * Age 22; Enlisted from Rainsville, Indiana August 10, 1862 as a Second Lieutenant in Company "D", Eighty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and was mustered in for 3 years service at Indianapolis September 4th. He was promoted to First Lieutenant on June 5, 1863 and was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee on June 6, 1865.
The Eighty-sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry was organized at Lafayette, Indiana and mustered in September 4, 1862. It was attached to the Fourteenth Brigade, Fifth Division, Second Corps, Army of the Ohio until November, 1862 when it was attached to the Second Brigade, Third Division, Left Wing, Fourteenth Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland. In January, 1863 the regiment was assigned to the Second Brigade, Third Division, Twenty-first Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland. It was later attached to the Third Brigade, Third Division, Fourth Army Corps, Army of the Cumber-

land. The regiment was mustered out at Nashville, Tennessee June 6, 1865. The regiment partook in the Battles of Perryville, Stone's River, Chickamauga, Resaca, the Siege of Atlanta, Battles of Jonesboro, Franklin, and Nashville, Tennessee. The regiment lost during service 2 Officers and 70 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 1 Officer and 176 Enlisted men by disease, a total of 249 men.

VOUCHER NO. 198

Paid December 31st 1862

Francis Marion Tocan

Private Co. B 8th Ind. Vols.

From 14th of September 1862

To 30th of December 1862

Amount Paid, $39.85

Pillman

386

B+1438 GCP

CERTIFICATE to be Given to Discharged Volunteers to Enable them to Draw their Pay.

This is to Certify, That Francis M. Tison a Private in Company C. Captain Bell of the 46th Regiment of Indiana Foot Vols aged 20 years, 5 feet 10 inches high, Light complexion, Blue eyes, Light hair, by occupation a Farmer; volunteered at Clinton Co Ind on the 14th day of August, 1862; has been regularly mustered into the United States service, to serve Three years, unless sooner discharged.

He is now entitled to an honorable discharge by reason of Surgeons Certificate of Disability. He was last paid by Major ....., to include the 14th day of September 1862. His clothing account has* ~~been~~ been settled to the ..... day of ..... 186 . He has *since* drawn clothing in kind, amounting to $28.47. ~~He has furnished his own horse and horse equipments, having been mounted for the time, and is entitled to 40 cents per day for the use and risk thereof;~~ he is indebted to ....., Sutlers, $....., and to the United States for damage to arms and equipments $.....; for Court Martial fines $.....; and for transportation furnished when on sick or discharge furlough $..... Subsistence has been furnished him to include the ..... day of ..... 186 .

Given in duplicate the 20th day of November 1862, at Louisville in Jefferson County, State of, Kentucky this being the place and date of his discharge.

M. McLeundy
Col 32nd Ky Infy Commanding Company ~~Pro~~

* When no settlement of clothing has been made by Paymaster, insert the word *never* in space marked * and strike out the word *since* at beginning of next line.

[This Account will not be Paid unless made up by the Paymaster.]

UNITED STATES,

In account with Francis M. Tison Dr.

For pay 3 months 16 days 13 Dollars per month	$ 45	03
" " Clothing allowance 4 months 16 days, @ $3 50 per month	15	86
" " Extra duty in Hospital as ..... at 25 cents per day		
" " Use and risk of horse and equipments ..... days, 40 cents per day		
" " Traveling from place of discharge to place of enlistment, 150 miles, equal to 7 days, @ 13 Dollars per month	3	03
For subsistence while travelling as above 7 days, @ 50 cents per day	3	50
Amount	68	32
Deduct for clothing drawn ~~since last settlement~~ $	28	47
For other stoppages, as above		
Balance paid	39	85

Claim for Bounty disallowed in Certificate No. 124,156 May 10, 1890.

Received this 31 day of Dec 1862, of Maj Wilkman U. S. Paymaster, Thirty nine Dollars eighty five Cents, in full payment of above account.

Witness, Signed in duplicate,

..... Francis Marion Tison

THESE PAPERS MUST NOT BE SEPARATED EXCEPT BY THE PAYMASTER.